



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE PAY-AS-YOU-GO ESTIMATE

March 1, 2002

H.R. 1892 **Family Sponsor Immigration Act of 2002**

As cleared by the Congress on February 26, 2002

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1892 would result in no significant cost to the federal government. The act could affect direct spending and receipts, but we estimate that any such effects would not be significant.

Current law requires that applicants for family-based immigrant visas be sponsored by an immediate relative who will provide financial support if necessary. If the sponsor dies while the application is pending, then a new application must be filed. In this situation, H.R. 1892 would permit the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) to allow certain other relatives to replace a deceased sponsor and to proceed with the approval process without filing a new application.

Based on information from the INS, CBO expects that the act's provisions would aid no more than several hundred applicants each year. Thus, any effects on fees collected by INS or the Department of State would be insignificant. INS fees are classified as offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending); and the State Department fees are classified as governmental receipts (i.e., revenues).

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.